

VILLAGE OF BREWSTER  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
4 NOVEMBER 2020  
7:30 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Brewster is holding a virtual meeting at 7:30 PM, on November 4, 2020 through Zoom Meeting. The Meeting ID is 207 812 8623 and the phone number needed to call in is 1-929-205-6099.

Attendees:

Mayor: James Schoenig  
Deputy Mayor and Trustee: Christine Piccini  
Trustees; Mary Bryde, George Gaspar, Tom Boissonnault  
Village Police Chief:  
Village Engineer: Todd Atkinson  
Village Counsel: Anthony Molé  
Clerk & Treasurer: Michelle Chiudina  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer:

Absent:

John Del Gardo

Donna Milazzo

Mayor Schoenig motions to open up the regular meeting, Trustee Bryde 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 5 to 0.

Pledge to flag.

1. Monthly Reports

- 1.1. Planning Board Reports for October, 2020. Planning Board Chairman Rick Lowell sent the Planning Board report for October, 2020 to the Village Board of Trustees. Trustee Bryde reviews with the Board that there was no Planning Board meeting in October and Clerk Chiudina notes that at their next meeting they will be discussing 861 Route 22. Mayor Schoenig motions to approve the Planning Board Report for October, 2020, as written, Trustee Gaspar 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 5 to 0. Copies will be attached to these minutes.
- 1.2. Zoning Board of Appeals Report. Mayor Schoenig notes that there was no Zoning Board of Appeals meeting this past month. Mayor Schoenig motions to accept the Zoning Board of Appeals Report of No Activity, Trustee Boissonnault, 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 5 to 0.
- 1.3. Engineer's Reports for October, 2020. Village Engineer Todd Atkinson presents the Engineer's Report for October, 2020. Mr. Atkinson informs the Board that replacing the heating unit for the WWTP filtration building needs to be approved tonight as we enter the colder months. Trustee Bryde clarifies the work that is still pending in the reports will remain pending until the equipment is received and Mr. Atkinson confirms. He also mentions the light sensors that are not working at the DEP lab building at 25 Marvin Avenue. Trustee Gaspar mentions the quote from Bill's Refrigeration and asks if we are unable to find parts to fix the heaters instead. Mr. Atkinson explains that these machines are still being made but the electrical configuration is different and the cost to repair them outweighs the costs the replace them. Trustee Gaspar questions the life expectancy on these heating models and when will they need to be serviced again and Mr. Atkinson explains that these models should last about 15 years and after that point the Village will need to look into installing newer models. Mr. Atkinson notes that himself and Mayor Schoenig met with John Lord and Judy Terlizzi of the Putnam County Land Trust to discuss some projects in the Village regarding the stormwater catch basins including maintaining them. Mayor Schoenig mentions that it was a very productive meeting and that the Putnam County Land Trust has a number of volunteers to help with these projects. Mayor Schoenig motions to approve the Engineer's Report for October, 2020, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.
  - 1.3.1. WWTP Heater Replacement. Deputy Mayor Piccini motions to approve the purchasing of a new heating unit for the WWTP for the price quoted in the Bill's Refrigeration quote for \$4,500, Trustee Gaspar 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.
- 1.4. DPW Report. DPW Superintendent Domenic Consentino gives the DPW Report. Mr. Consentino reminds the Board and the public that on December 1<sup>st</sup> the snow ordinance goes into effect. Mr. Consentino asks Trustee Bryde when to bring down the hanging baskets, and Trustee Bryde states that the baskets can be taken down whenever and the holiday baskets can go up after Thanksgiving and asks that those baskets be brought to Village Hall to ensure they are still in good shape. Mr. Consentino mentions that there will be some faded signage that will be replaced

as well as continuing with the leaf collection and doing free webinars as they are available from Cornell Local Roads. Mayor Schoenig motions to accept the DPW report, Trustee Bryde 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.

2. Hillside Park/Terrace Water. Mayor Schoenig mentions the letter that the Board received from the residents of Hillside Park and Hillside Terrace regarding the water clarity in their area and asks that Mr. Consentino and Mr. Atkinson explain the water system in that area. Trustee Gaspar also requests that the map that Mr. Consentino sketched out be put on the screen for reference. Mr. Consentino explains what happened after the new storage tank was installed on the hill above Hillside Park and Hillside Terrace, which created a loop in the system and continues by stating that there could be a number of reasons as to why residents in that area are having water clarity issues. Mayor Schoenig notes the old galvanized line that is on Hillside Terrace located in the Town of Southeast. Mr. Atkinson mentions that the houses on that line did not have their service lines from the road to the house changed so they could be old galvanized lines as well, which could be causing the problem from the turbidity and rust. Deputy Mayor Piccini inquires if the old galvanized lines on Hillside Terrace are causing the problems with the other homes in this area. Mrs. Jennifer Farenholz, Hillside Terrace resident, states that her water is orangey-brown color and that this discoloration has been going on for a long time and has gotten progressively worse. Trustee Gaspar asks Mr. Consentino if the connection to Mrs. Farenholz's house is before or after the old galvanized line and Mr. Consentino is unsure and will have to look back in her records. Mr. Atkinson believes that he has the blueprints for the area but it does not discuss where the service lines are in comparison and he has had conversations with the company that did the installation in the 1990's and was told that there were new copper lines at the curb stop that were connected to the old galvanized service lines that led into the house. Mr. Consentino expresses his confusion in how 36 and 34 Hillside are having water clarity issues when their lines are fed before the storage tank and are not looped anymore due to a break in the line. Deputy Mayor Piccini asks for clarification on where the water that fills the storage tank comes from as well as where does the water that goes through the 12-inch main going down Hillside Park goes. Mr. Consentino explains that the 12-inch main crosses the Carmel Avenue bridge to feed the system and the water main that feeds the tank comes from Oak Street near Bailey Park. Deputy Mayor Piccini notes that the work on the Carmel Avenue Bridge could be causing the disturbances but Mr. Consentino is unsure as he filled up a container from the storage tank and found the water to be clear. Mr. Consentino notes that the construction company doing the Carmel Avenue Bridge was using the Village's water for their machines without notifying the Village, which caused discolored water throughout the area and he reminded them that the Village must be notified when the water is going to be used for their machinery. Trustee Gaspar asks if water has been taken from these houses to be tested and Mr. Consentino informs the Board that he has not done this yet. Trustee Boissonnault questions if the water discoloration is sporadic or a constant and Mr. Daniel Basiletti, Hillside Terrace resident, states that it comes and goes but the frequency has been getting worse over the last four years. Mr. Atkinson asks if the discoloration happens with hot water or cold water or both, and Mr. Basiletti states that it doesn't seem to matter what the temperature is and reiterates that it is not consistent. Mr. Consentino states that if the complaint is not made to the Village Office there is no way for the Village to investigate why this is happening. Lesta Cordil, Hillside Terrace resident who organized the letter, states that this has been happening for a very long time even after installing a whole house water filter and expects the Village to determine the problem. Mrs. Farenholz notes that this problem was brought up at a previous meeting when the discussion of water rates was being discussed. Deputy Mayor Piccini believes that it could be the old galvanized line effecting the water in that area and asks Mr. Atkinson if there could be backflow in either direction of that line. Mr. Atkinson confirms this and further explains that if the service line slopes downward toward the house there could be sediments in the lulls of the line and he recommends that there be a point of contact for this district who can contact the Village when the water turns again so that himself or Mr. Consentino can check the tank to ensure that is not where the problem is. Mayor Schoenig asks if the service lines going into people's houses could be the cause of the discolored water and Mr. Atkinson agrees that it a possibility as well and explains that the new lines that were installed did not include the service lines. The Board, Mr. Consentino and Mr. Atkinson discuss the old lines that were in the ground before the new lines were installed and the condition of those old lines and how that effected the water. Trustee Boissonnault clarifies that the 12-inch line feeds the rest of the Village and determines that there must be a problem in this area as this issue is not being experienced as commonly anywhere else. Mr. Atkinson explains the flow of the 12-inch main depending on if the booster pumps are on or not and discusses the booster pump schedule with the Board. Trustee Boissonnault asks the residents of Hillside if they notice if the water is particularly worse at a certain point of the day and Mr. Basiletti states that he doesn't see a pattern at his house. Trustee Gaspar asks how the water clarity is at Mr. Basiletti's home right now and Mr. Basiletti notes that the water was a little brown today. Trustee Boissonnault asks that the residents of Hillside call the Village Office when they are having issues and Lesta Cordil states that it would be difficult to do as people have jobs and lives and aren't always able to call.

Mr. Atkinson infers that the problem is due to the services lines that come from the mains and to the house but would like to rule out any other possible factors and would need the residents to inform the Village when the water clarity is low in order to do so. Clerk Chiudina provides the residents with the Village Hall number and her email for residents to contact her when the water clarity is low. Mayor Schoenig asks Mr. Atkinson if it was the main line, wouldn't everyone in the Village have low water clarity and Mr. Atkinson states that the 12-inch main is a 23-year-old cement line and there should be no issues with it at this time and still stands by his inclination that this issue is with the service lines. Mr. Atkinson asks if the residents notice a difference in clarity during the winter time verses the summer time or if there are any other patterns the residents notice and Lesta Cordil states that it is random and is impossible to keep a schedule to determine if there is a pattern. She notes that a plumber who was doing work on her house informed her that the water clarity is an issue throughout the Village and Mayor Schoenig describes the situation where he lives, where the house two doors down from him has discolored water, while he does not. Mrs. Farenholc states that this situation is an entire neighborhood having discolored water and Mr. Farenholc notes that those on Carmel Avenue near the construction complain about discolored water as well. Mr. Atkinson reiterates that the first step in this process is to rule out the storage tank and the only way to do this is if someone informs the Village of their discolored water as soon as it happens so himself and Mr. Consentino can check the storage tank clarity but if the problem is not there, there will need to be an investigation done. Mr. Atkinson recommends using a leak detection company to determine if there are any issues and possibly doing a sample at a home with notably more issues to determine what the issue is. Mayor Schoenig asks if these lines can be scoped and Mr. Atkinson states that the lines cannot be scoped but there are detection companies that have super sensitive rods that would detect extremely small leaks. Mayor Schoenig suggests areas where the issues are prominent and Mr. Atkinson states that an expert would be better equipped to determine where to start. Mr. Atkinson reiterates that once the storage tank and the water mains are cleared of any issues, the service lines will need to be checked. Deputy Mayor Piccini asks about the old galvanized lines and how these were connected to the new system and Mr. Atkinson states that copper pipes were installed to connect the two. Mr. Consentino further clarifies that one side of Hillside Terrace is in the Village and received a new copper line to connect the existing service lines to the 12-inch main, while the other side of Hillside Terrace was connected to the main with about 10 to 15 feet of copper piping to connect to the old galvanized line on that road. Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Consentino state that they are unsure of what happens beyond the old galvanized line as that is Town of Southeast property but a detection company could mark out where the lines are located. Deputy Mayor Piccini reiterates that the Board, the Village Engineer and the DPW Superintendent will work to determine the source of the problem but still need the Hillside residents to inform the Village Office when there are discoloration issues. Mr. Atkinson discusses different ways to determine the problem area of the system and will discuss these solutions further with Mr. Consentino, specifically with a piece of the loop and closing it off to see if water clarity improves. Mrs. Farenholc asks that the Hillside Residents be informed of any changes that may happen relating to their water to make any notes if their clarity is changing and the Board confirms that the residents will be notified. Clerk Chiudina suggests that the Hillside Residents email her so she can put them on a list that will keep them informed. Mayor Schoenig informs the Hillside Residents that the letter is dated September 4, 2020, and it was not received by the Village Office until October 19, 2020 and post marked for October 15, 2020.

3. Financial Report. Clerk Chiudina delivers the Financial Report. She informs the Board that the Court has received two grants for COVID-19 related supplies as well as equipment needed for the new court clerk but will be determining what budget adjustments are needed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in December or January. Clerk Chiudina also informs the Board that of the over expending in the Engineering Fund, and will look into that with Deputy Clerk Milazzo to determine what caused this and will be included in the budget adjustments. Clerk Chiudina notes that the Courts are looking into integrating a credit card system, which would be at no cost to the Village and will have more information on this in December. Clerk Chiudina also notes that the Code Enforcement vehicle's transmission died earlier this week and we are looking into purchasing a new car for the department. Clerk Chiudina proposes to the Board the notion of resuming charges for those who have not paid for their parking lot spots for the last two quarters. She continues explaining that the Village has held the spots for those who are not using them during the pandemic but the Village has missed out on a lot of revenue from the parking that is desperately needed. She suggests that the Board allow her to send out a letter to the parkers explaining that if the Village Office does not receive a parking permit payment by March 1, 2021, that people will lose their spot and their place on the move up list. The Board of Trustees agrees with Clerk Chiudina's proposal but suggest that she move up the date to December 31, 2020 to ensure the funds are received in a timely manner. Clerk Chiudina mentions that there was a credit call with Standard and Poor's and unfortunately the Village credit rating was reduced from an A- to BBB and it is due to the cash flow issue.

4. Release of Payment for Stop Sign. Clerk Chiudina explains that this is the payment of \$376.53 for the accident where someone ran over a stop sign and it needed to be replaced. Mayor Schoenig confirms with Counsel Molé that if the Village signs this we cannot go after the person responsible for the remaining funds of approximately \$121.97 and Counsel Molé confirms this and recommends that the Village sign the Release of Payment. Deputy Mayor Piccini motions to have Mayor Schoenig sign the Release of Payment for \$376.53, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Schoenig opposes, all other Board members vote approves, motion passes 4 to 1.
5. Street Lighting Contract with NYSEG. Clerk Chiudina explains that this payment of the new lights will be distributed over a 12-month billing and ultimately the lights will pay for themselves within a year. Trustee Gaspar motions to have Mayor Schoenig sign the contract with NYSEG, Deputy Mayor Piccini 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.
6. LADA Resolution 110420-1. Counsel Mole discusses the agreement between Park Brewster and Covington and after review he has no changes. Mayor Schoenig motions to approve Resolution 110420-1 as written, Trustee Gaspar 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.

7. October 21, 2020 Minutes for approval. Trustee Bryde approves the Minutes for October 21, 2020, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.

8. Vouchers Payable – Trustee Bryde was in the office and reviewed the vouchers and found everything in order.

8.1. A -	GENERAL FUND	\$7,195.93
8.2. C –	REFUSE & GARBAGE	18,869.98
8.3. F -	WATER FUND	94,675.63
8.4. G -	SEWER FUND	16,094.23
8.5. H65 -	WELLS PARK BIKE PATH CONNECTOR	2,855.00
8.6. TA -	TRUST & AGENCY	1,488.35

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Total Vouchers Payable \$141,179.12

Mayor Schoenig motions to approve the Vouchers as written, Deputy Mayor Piccini 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.

9. Other Business

- 9.1. Deputy Mayor Piccini discusses the Village handbook and Paid Family Leave, which the Village opted out of, but would like to discuss this at a later date. Mayor Schoenig informs the Board that Paid Family Leave is paid by the employee not the employer and Counsel Molé agrees and states that it is a type of insurance premium. Mayor Schoenig notes that he has had negative experiences with the Paid Family Leave. Clerk Chiudina will get more information and look into it further.
- 9.2. Trustee Bryde mentions the Take Back Medication event that the Community That Cares Coalition held at the Sheriff's office on October 24<sup>th</sup> received over 180 pounds of medication. She also mentions that the Veterans' Day ceremony on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at Electrazone Field.
- 9.3. Trustee Gaspar informs Mr. Consentino that there are a few meters on Park Street at the end of the road are nonoperational and need to be fixed and Mr. Consentino states he will look into that.
- 9.4. Mayor Schoenig thanks Father Gill and St. Lawrence for allowing us to use their facility last Wednesday for the Urban Renewal Project meeting and the Board agrees.

10. New Business

- 10.1. Trustee Boissonnault met with George Apap of George Apap Painting about decorating the tree this year and announces that the Village is looking for donations to go towards decorating the tree. Deputy Mayor Piccini asks about the money that the Trustees personally donated to Kyle DeSantis' Eagle Scout Project and Clerk Chiudina informs the Board that the money will be given to Mr. DeSantis' this week or the beginning of next week.
- 10.2. Mayor Schoenig discusses the meeting with Putnam County Land Trust, that was mentioned earlier in the Engineering Report. He explains that Mr. Atkinson will be looking into this further with the East of Hudson Water Shed group to discuss funds needed for the various plants that need to be added as well as about the catch basins and the invasive plants. The Putnam County Land Trust has volunteers that will help with the projects.

11. Public Comment

- 11.1. Mr. Scott Seaman, Brewster Board of Education member, mentions the Brewster Vision 2025 meeting, which is the next step to the Strategic Coherence Plan. He also mentions that Thursday is the key commuter panel, and informs the Board that there was a COVID emergency and Brewster Schools will be going into full distance learning until Monday.
- 11.2. Mr. John Lord inquires about the Urban Renewal Project meeting and if the presentation will be available. Clerk Chiudina states that the Village does have the presentation and it will be up on the website.

11.3. Clerk Chiudina reminds the Board of the emails received from various property owners concerning their water bills. The Board decides that the property owners should attend the next meeting to answer any questions the Board may have and come up with a solution.

12. Mayor Schoenig motions to adjourn the regular meeting, Trustee Gaspar 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor 5 to 0.

# **VILLAGE OF BREWSTER, NY REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Nov. 4, 2020

Rick Lowell, Chairman  
Janet Ward, Vice-Chairman  
David Kulo  
Marti Foster  
Katy New

Greg Folchetti, attorney- Costello & Folchetti  
Todd Atkinson, PE – J.R. Folchetti & Assoc.  
Cathy Huidina, secretary

Meeting Date: Oct. 20, 2020

No meeting was held on this date. Next scheduled meeting date is Tues., Nov. 17, 2020.

Respectfully,

Rick Lowell  
Chairman

**VILLAGE OF BREWSTER  
MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

1. <u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>		
Report No:     10 of 2020	Date: 11/4/2020	Contract No:
Facility Name:   VOB / PLANNING BOARD REVIEW AND CONSULTATION		

2. <u>ENGINEERS STATUS OF PROJECT</u> (Narrative description of the Upgrade Project tasks (and subtasks) undertaken by the Engineer as set forth in the Engineer's Contract and Scope of Work including:	
a.	Projects reviewed this month (attach additional pages as needed)
•	85 Main Street - 3.75 hours
b.	Status of Planning Board projects (attach additional pages as needed):
•	538 North Main Street – Construction Ongoing/Amendment Approved
•	79 Main Street Resolution Requirements; Inspections
•	530 North Main Street – Ongoing Inspections
c.	Activities scheduled (attach additional pages as needed):
•	Continue plan review and meetings for B.O.S. Land Development
•	Perform site inspection at 538 North Main Street, when needed
•	530 North Main Street, Ongoing Inspections
•	Perform site inspection at 79 Main Street, when needed

**VILLAGE OF BREWSTER  
MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

<b>1.     <u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u></b>		
Report No:     10 of 2020	Date:    11/04/2020	Contract No:
Facility Name:   VOB / EPA Stormwater Phase II Regulations		

<b>2.     <u>ENGINEERS STATUS OF PROJECT</u> (Narrative description of the Upgrade Project tasks (and subtasks) undertaken by the Engineer as set forth in the Engineer's Contract and Scope of Work including :</b>	
<b>a.</b>	<b>Activities completed this month (attach additional pages as needed):</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•     Maintain monthly stormwater maintenance/good housekeeping reports quantifying the number of pounds of litter and the amount of sand cleaned up throughout the Village.</li> </ul>
<b>b.</b>	<b>Status of activities in progress this month (attach additional pages as needed):</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•     Inspections of Tonetta and Wells Brook Stormwater Retrofit Ponds in progress.</li> </ul>
<b>c.</b>	<b>Activities scheduled (attach additional pages as needed):</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•     Perform dry weather inspections on Village outfalls.</li> <li>•     Address comments, if any, from the NYSDEC on Annual Report.</li> </ul>



